(e) *Ex-gratia* payment has been made. Claims for compensation will be decided as per law.

Persons of Indian origin killed in Afghanistan

*52. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report about the killing of about 88 persons of Indian origin near Jalalabad in intensified attack on that city by Afghan rebels; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have received these reports with anguish. Our concern about the security and safety of the persons of Indian origin as well as Indian nationals presently in Afghanistan has been conveyed to the Government of Afghanistan who have assured us of their cooperation in this regard.

New Health Schemes for retired Railway employees

*53. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2289 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1989 and state:

(a) what is the number of persons, indicating the grades and categories, who are likely to be covered under the liberalised health scheme introduced for the benefit of retired Railway employees w.e.f. 28th September, 1988; and

(b) what amount of funds have been earmarked for this scheme for the year 1989-90?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Sir, it is premature to have this information as the last date of option to be exercised (by the retired/retiring employees, and the employees in service before 1.1.89) for the scheme is 30.6.1989.

(b) No separate funds have so far been earmarked.

Report of the Empowered Committee on Chattopadhyaya Commission Recommendations

*54. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Empowered Committee has since submitted its report on the recommendations of the Chattopadhyaya Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to each of them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c) The Empowered Committee appointed by the Government to examine the recommendations made by the Chattopadhyaya Commission, gave its report on 22nd March, 1988. The Action Taken Report containing the decision of the Government on each recommendation of NCT-I has been laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 11.12.1987 and 13.5.1988.

Compensation claimed by Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore from Indian Airlines

*55. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore